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Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 13058 171319Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00
INRE-00 EB-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 COME-00 TRSE-00
OMB-01 HA-05 IO-13 CTME-00 /076 W
----------130104 171320Z /43
O 171314Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9226
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, EG, IS, US
SUBJ: ISRAELI HARASSMENT OF AMOCO PRODUCTION OPERATIONS
- IN GULF OF SUEZ REPORTED

1. NORMAN RUBASH, AMOCO/EGYPT PRESIDENT,CALLED EMBOFF AT 1330 HOURS LOCAL MAY 17 TO REPORT NEWS, WHICH HE IN TURN HAD JUST RECEIVED FROM RAS SHUKAIR AT 1300 HOURS, OF ISRAELI HARASSMENT OF ROUTINE OPERATIONS AROUND PLATFORM 5 (LAT 28 DEGREES 17 MINUTES 14.9 SECONDS N, LONG 33 DEGREES 18 MINUTES, 31.7 SECONDS EAST) IN RAMADAN FIELD. ACCORDING TO VERY PRELIMINARY REPORT REACHING RUBASH, ISRAELI GUNBOAT MOVED EVENING MAY 16 WITHIN RANGE OF THREE WORK BOATS (TWO ARE REPORTED FLYING US FLAG), WHICH WERE ASSISTING IN ROUTINE MOVE OF JACK UP RIG FROM PLATFORM 5. REPORTS SAY ALL GUNS MANNED AND AIMED AT WORK BOATS. NO REPORTS OF VERBAL EXCHANGES BUT RUBASH EMPHASIZED REPORT REACHING HIM VERY SKETCHY. REPORT GOES ON TO STATE THAT MORNING MAY 17 LARGER ISRAELI VESSEL APPROACHED SAME PLATFORM AND RAN CIRCLES AROUND WORK BOATS, AGAIN WITH ALL GUNS MANNED, UNCOVERED AND AIMED AT WORK BOATS AND PLATFORM. AT ONE POINT, ACCORDING REPORT,
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GUNS AIMED AT HELICOPTER WHICH FLYING ROUTINE FLIGHT TO PLATFORM.

2. RUBASH MAKING FURTHER INQUIRIES AND WILL PROVIDE US WITH ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AS SOON AS HE RECEIVES IT.

3. COMMENT: DURING CONFRONTATION OVER PLACEMENT OF RIG

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IN BLOCK 304 IN SEPTEMBER, 1976, WE DISCOVERED THAT
PLATFORM FIVE IS LOCATED ALMOST DIRECTLY ON ISRAELI
VERSION OF MEDIAN LINE AS SHOWN ON MAP PROVIDED BY ISRAELI
NAVY COMMANDER BARNEA, WHO WAS MEMBER OF ISRAELI DELEGA-
TION THAT CAME TO WASHINGTON TO DISCUSS MATTER AT THE
TIME. ANY ACTIVITY, THEREFORE, EAST AND NORTH OF PLATFORM
FIVE COULD THEORETICALLY BE INTERDICTED UNDER ISRAELI
POLICY OF CONTROL OF SOUTHEASTERN GULF OF SUEZ.

4. RUBASH SAID HE APPRISING CHICAGO OF INCIDENT AND
EXPECTED THEY WOULD BE MAKING APPROACH TO DEPARTMENT.
HE HAD NO REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE TO MAKE AT THIS TIME.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: fa2c3e9c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
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Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
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TAGS: ENRG, EG, IS, US, AMOCO
To: STATE
Type: TE
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